

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 168574
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 FSE-00 COME-00 LAB-04
STR-07 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 TRSE-00
FRB-01 OMB-01 AGR-01 /061 R

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COMMERCE: EGOTTTFRIED
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STR: MSMITH

-----014523 032355Z /75

P R 032158Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 168574

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, RP

SUBJECT: AMBASSADORS SPEECH - TEXTILES

1. WE SUGGEST LANGUAGE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES WHICH CAN
BE DRAWN UPON FOR THE "FEW WORDS" REGARDING TEXTILES IN
THE AMBASSADOR'S MAIDEN SPEECH.

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2. BEGIN TEXT. THE NEW US-PHILIPPINE BILATERAL TEXTILE
AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED IN LATE MAY IS CONCRETE EVIDENCE
THAT WE CAN RESOLVE ISSUES IN A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL WAY.
PRIOR TO THE NEGOTIATIONS, THE U.S. RECOGNIZED THAT THE
PHILIPPINES ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO SECURING INCREASED
ACC-SS TO OUR MARKET, WHILE THE PHILIPPINES REALIZED THAT
ITS TEXTILE EXPORTS, ESPECIALLY OF VARIOUS APPAREL PRODUCTS,
COULD CAUSE PROBLEMS IN THE U.S. MARKET. DESPITE THESE

DIFFERENCES, BOTH SIDES WERE DETERMINED TO FIND A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION, BUILDING ON OUR SHARED EXPERIENCE WITH SUCH AGREEMENTS DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS. IN THIS, THE U.S. WAS COMMITTED TO OBSERVE BOTH THE SPIRIT AND THE LETTER OF THE GATT MULTIFIBER ARRANGEMENT, WHICH CALLS FOR CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF THE INTERESTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT CONSIDERABLE INGENUITY WAS APPLIED IN DEVISING A BRIDGE BETWEEN THE

QUOTA NEEDS OF THE PHILIPPINES AND LEVELS THE U.S. FELT WOULD NOT BE MARKET DISRUPTIVE. A UNIQUE AGREEMENT WAS CREATED, DIFFERING IN CERTAIN RESPECTS FROM THOSE THAT THE U.S. HAS ENTERED INTO WITH OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THIS AGREEMENT, WHICH WE EXPECT WILL BE SIGNED SHORTLY AFTER REVIEW BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS, WILL GRANT THE PHILIPPINES SIGNIFICANT, IMMEDIATE INCREASED ACCESS TO OUR TEXTILE MARKET, RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1 OF THIS YEAR. IN RETURN, THE U.S. WILL BE ASSURED OF GREATER STABILITY IN TEXTILE IMPORTS FROM THE PHILIPPINES OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. I BELIEVE THAT BOTH GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE GENUINELY PLEASED BY THE OUTCOME OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS. END TEXT. VANCE

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TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, RP, US, (MURPHY, RICHARD W)
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